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AREA NO KISHI CHAPTER 133

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THE KNIGHT OF THE ARK
巨蛇騎士
叮咚—
YUP.
IF I EAT TOO MUCH, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE AROUND EASILY DURING THE MATCH.
THANKS FOR THE FOOD.
IS ONE BOWL OF RICE ENOUGH?
I'M LEAVING, KAASAN
YEAH, I'M COMING!
GOOD MORNING.
WAIT, KAKERU! YOU FORGOT SOMETHING!
KAKERU, READY TO GO?
ENOSHIMA
EH?
IT TOOK A WHILE...
SILLY BOY. IF YOU FORGET YOUR JERSEY, YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING, RIGHT?
AH...
HERE.
ENOSHIMA

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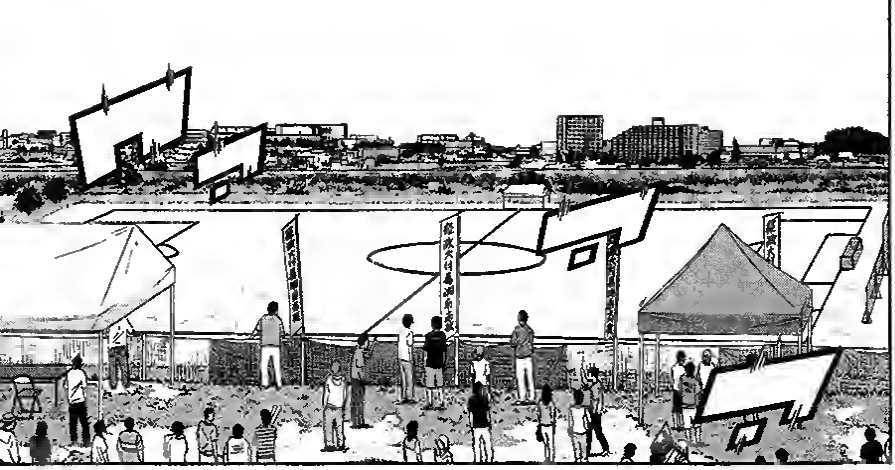
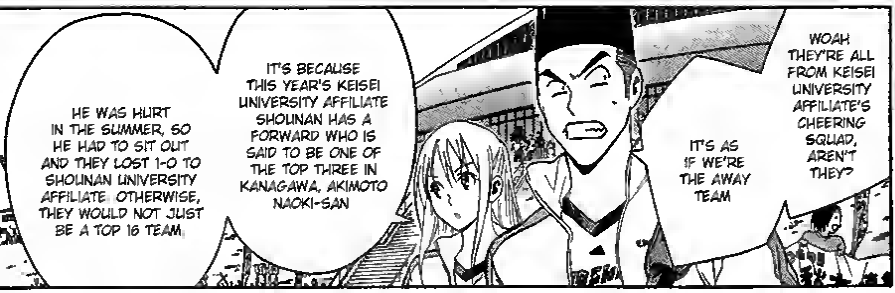
#133 RAISE THE CURTAINS




WOAH THEY'RE ALL FROM KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE'S CHEERING SQUAD, AREN'T THEY?
IT'S AS IF WE'RE THE AWAY TEAM
IT'S BECAUSE THIS YEAR'S KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE SHOUNAN HAS A FORWARD WHO IS SAID TO BE ONE OF THE TOP THREE IN KANAGAWA, AKIMOTO NAOKI-SAN
HE WAS HURT IN THE SUMMER, SO HE HAD TO SIT OUT AND THEY LOST 1-0 TO SHOUNAN UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE. OTHERWISE, THEY WOULD NOT JUST BE A TOP 16 TEAM.

IN THE U-18 GAMES, HE AND TAKAJOU-SAN PLAYED TOGETHER AS FORWARDS
KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE ALSO HAS A REPUTABLE DEFENSE
THAT'S RIGHT... EVEN THOUGH AKIMOTO-SAN DIDN'T PLAY, SHOUNAN-U, WHO HAS THE "FOUR ARROWS" INCLUDING HIBINO,
ONLY MANAGED TO SCORE ONE GOAL THROUGH HIBINO'S FREE-KICK. THEIR DEFENSE BEFITS THEIR REPUTATION.
OI, OI, DON'T SAY SOMETHING THAT MAKES ME FEEL UNEASY.
KYAAH, IT'S AKIMOTO-SAN!!
!

DAMN... HE'S POPULAR!
Is "To Youko-chan Pine?
BIRD
Yes~
KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE SHOUNAN THIRD YEAR
AKIMOTO NAOKI
I'M TELLIN' YA, STOP SAYING THINGS THAT MAKE ME FEEL UNEASY!
WHAT'S MORE, THEIR OPPONENTS HAVE NOT SCORED EVEN A SINGLE GOAL AGAINST THEIR DEFENDERS.
THAT PERSON WAS THE TOP SCORER IN HIS FIRST PRELIMINARIES.
GEH, THEY'RE INTERVIEWING AKIMOTO?
NO WAY! JOURNALISTS CAME FOR THE PREFECTURE'S SECOND PRELIMINARIES?
YES, PLEASE
AKIMOTO-KUN, CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME?
WE'RE FROM THE MONTHLY YOUTH AND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

YOU SEEM TO BE IN TOP FORM. MAY I ASK WHAT YOUR GOAL IS?
WELL...
FOR NOW, "BEAT YOUIN" AND "BEAT KAMAGAKU."
WE'VE COME WITH THE DEFENSIVE LINEUP WHICH CONCEDED THE LEAST NUMBER OF GOALS IN THE SUMMER.
DUE TO MY INJURY, THE TEAM WAS AFFECTED, SO I'LL HAVE TO WORK HARD.
TCH, IS HE IGNORING US? WE'RE HAVING A MATCH WITH HIM LATER!
Top scorer or whatever
YOU'RE ASSUMING YOU'RE A STAR, EH?
So you're just a little good looking!
SOMEHOW, YOU TWO SEEM LIKE VILLAINS
OUR ACE DOESN'T LOSE WHEN IT COMES TO PUTTING ON AIRS, DOES HE?
BUT HE'S STILL GOT FIVE KILOGRAMS TO GO BEFORE HE REACHES HIS OPTIMUM WEIGHT
IF HE DOESN'T GET THERE IN TEN DAYS, HIS CALL-UP WILL BE WITHDRAWN
FIRST OFF, ARAKI-KUN, CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING CALLED-UP FOR THE U-16 TEAM.
THANKS!
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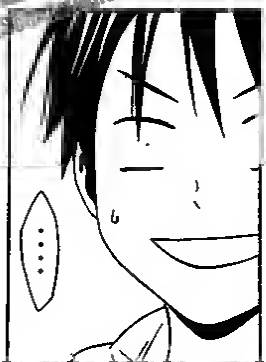

SUPPORTERS OF ENO HIGH, GOOD MORNING! FINALLY, IN THE KANAGAWA TOURNAMENT SECOND PRELIMINARIES OF THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP,
THE MATCH BETWEEN ENOSHIMA HIGH SCHOOL AND KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE SHOUNAN IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
ALTHOUGH KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE LOST TO SHOUNAN UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE DURING THIS YEAR'S INTER-HIGH,
WITH AKIMOTO NAOKI, ONE OF KANAGAWA'S BEST FORWARDS, COMING BACK FROM INJURY AND PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE PREFECTURE'S PRELIMINARIES,
THEY'VE COME HERE WITH COMPLETE VICTORIES IN THREE MATCHES, TWELVE GOALS SCORED AND ZERO GOALS CONCEDED.

THE WINNER OF THIS MATCH WILL BOOK THEIR PLACE IN THE TOP 16!
BUT FOR ENO HIGH, WHO ARE HOPING TO APPEAR IN THE NATIONALS THROUGH THIS CHAMPIONSHIP, THEY IMMEDIATELY FACE OFF WITH A STRONG OPPONENT.
NOW THEN, INTRODUCING THE STARTING LINE-UPS. FIRST, THE GOAL-KEEPER
LOOK, KAKERU, UP THERE ..
EH?

YOUIN ACADEMY AND KAMAGAKU ARE HERE.
I WONDER WHAT THAT MEANS...
EH...?
NO ONE ON EITHER TEAM CAN ANTICIPATE WHAT KIND OF DEVELOPMENT AWAITS THEM.
OF COURSE, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN,
YEAH, WE WON'T LOSE.

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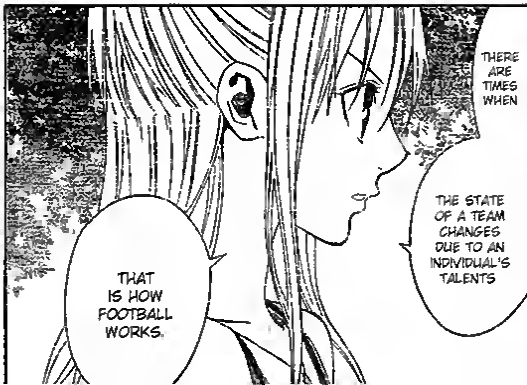

MATOBA, PRESS THE RIGHT FLANK!
GOTCHA!
MATOBA-KUN IS MOVING A LOT BETTER. HE'S ALSO DEFENDING THE FLANKS.
YEAH, WITH THIS, ARAKI-SAN CAN STAY IN A BETTER POSITION IN THE CENTER
SWITCHING SIDES! ATTACKING FROM THE RIGHT!
NOW, KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE IS GIVING UP ON THE LEFT FLANK AND RETURNING TO THE CENTER.
THE WINGER IS RUNNING DOWN THE RIGHT FLANK!

CAUTIOUS OF A BREAK-THROUGH DOWN THE FLANK, SAWAMURA MARKS THE WINGER.
TAKASE IS ALSO BACK TO DEFEND.
OH NO. NOW NUMBER 10, AKIMOTO, IS CHARGING DOWN THE CENTER!!
A PASS TO AKIMOTO!!

OH! HE GOT PAST ODA!
HEISEI
HOWEVER, HORIKAWA IS THERE!
HE GOT PAST HORIKAWA TOO...!!
YOSH!

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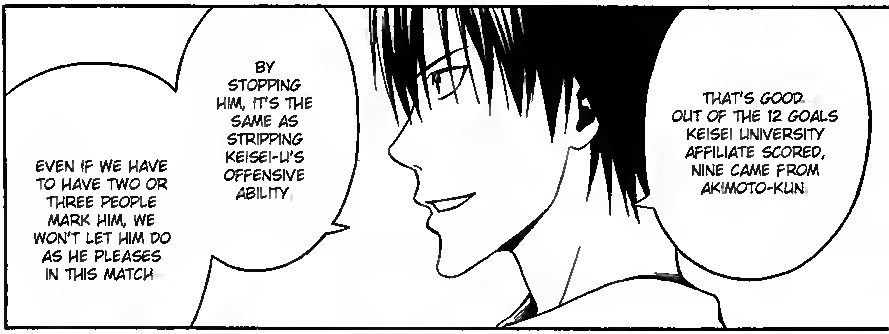
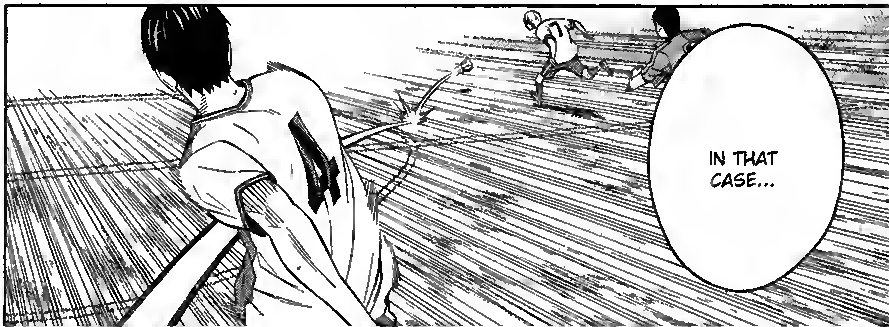
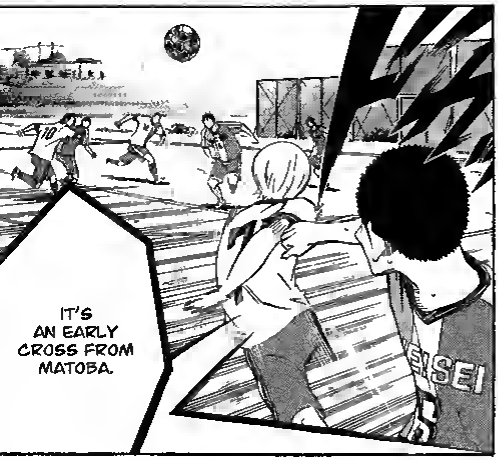
NO, IT'S ODA AGAIN!
THE SUPERB COMBINATION OF THE BEATEN ODA, WHO USED HIS ACCURATE TACKLING, AND THE "SNIPER", HORIKAWA,
HAS SHUT OUT U-18 REPRESENTATIVE AKIMOTO JUST OUTSIDE THE PENALTY AREA!
ALRIGHT !!


THAT'S GOOD. OUT OF THE 12 GOALS KEISEI UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE SCORED, NINE CAME FROM AKIMOTO-KUN.
BY STOPPING HIM, IT'S THE SAME AS STRIPPING KEISEI-U'S OFFENSIVE ABILITY.
EVEN IF WE HAVE TO HAVE TWO OR THREE PEOPLE MARK HIM, WE WON'T LET HIM DO AS HE PLEASES IN THIS MATCH.



BECAUSE THEY KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE HOW RELIANT ON AKIMOTO-KUN THEY ARE WHEN IT COMES TO SCORING GOALS.
IT WILL MAKE THE KEISEI ELEVEN REALLY IMPATIENT,


IT'S AN EARLY CROSS FROM MATOBA.

KAORU-KUN, GO!

THAT'S ALSO HIS CHARM, BUT DURING A FAST BREAK,
THE SPEED DECREASES, GIVING THE DEFENDERS TIME TO GET BACK IN PO-SITION.

CROSSING AFTER GETTING PAST ONE PERSON! THAT'S A SHADOW OF YOUIN ACADEMY'S ONIMARU-SAN'S PLAY.
YEAH. IF IT WERE THE KAORU-KUN OF THE PAST, HE WOULD'VE DRIBBLED IT FURTHER.

ARAKI'S ONE TOUCH PASS SENDS THE BALL INTO THE AREA!
YOSH!
IT'S NECESSARY TO ASSESS THE SITUATION. THAT EARLY CROSS WAS WELL-TIMED.
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TAKASE HEADS THE BALL TO THE FAR-SIDE...
9
ENOSHIMA
IT'S HINO!

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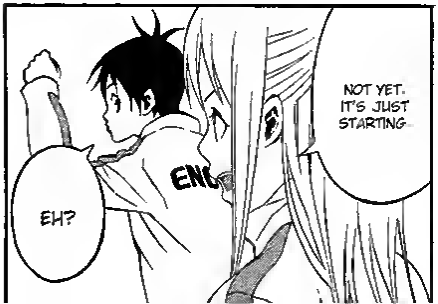

...HEY, WHAT SEVEN SAID EARLIER ABOUT NO ONE ON EITHER TEAM BEING ABLE TO ANTICIPATE THE DEVELOPMENTS.
OF COURSE...

I MEANT THAT ENO HIGH COULD WIN BY A MARGIN OF AT LEAST THREE GOALS.
GOAL! ENO HIGH'S GOTTEN A QUICK SECOND GOAL!!
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